

## PLATE XL.

- Fig. 10. *Limnocaridina tanganyikæ*, p. 704. First peræopod, outer side.  
 10 a. First peræopod, inner side.
- |     |                                              |   |                                                                            |
|-----|----------------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11. | "                                            | " | Second peræopod.                                                           |
| 12. | "                                            | " | Dactylus of fourth peræopod.                                               |
| 13. | "                                            | " | Fifth peræopod. 13 a. Dactylus of same.                                    |
| 14. | "                                            | " | First pleopod of female.                                                   |
| 15. | "                                            | " | First pleopod of male.                                                     |
| 16. | "                                            | " | Second pleopod of female.                                                  |
| 17. | "                                            | " | Second pleopod of male. 17 a. Appendix masculina and App. interna of same. |
| 18. | "                                            | " | Tail-fan.                                                                  |
| 19. | "                                            | " | Apex of telson.                                                            |
| 20. | <i>Palæmon moorei</i> , p. 709. Carapace, ♂. |   |                                                                            |
| 21. | "                                            | " | First peræopod (more highly magnified).                                    |
| 22. | "                                            | " | Second peræopod.                                                           |
| 23. | "                                            | " | Fourth peræopod.                                                           |
| 24. | "                                            | " | Apex of telson.                                                            |

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June 6, 1899.

Dr. HENRY WOODWARD, F.R.S., Vice-President,  
 in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following report on the additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of May 1899:—

The total number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of May was 95, of which 47 were by presentation, 7 by purchase, 36 were received on deposit, and 5 were born in the Menagerie. The total number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 110.

Among the additions may be specially noticed:—

1. A fine young male of the Mountain Zebra (*Equus zebra*), purchased May 6th, and making a pair with the female acquired by the Society on May 4th, 1898, from the Amsterdam Gardens.

2. An example of the curious Musk Duck (*Biziura lobata*) from Australia, purchased May 30th, of which specimens have been previously exhibited only on one occasion (see P. Z. S. 1882, pp. 311-455).

I also take this opportunity of exhibiting a careful drawing by Mr. Smit of the head of the Carunculated Bell-bird (*Chasmorhynchus niveus*) now living in the Insect-house (obtained by purchase

Sept. 3rd, 1896), in order to show the way in which the caruncle on the top of the bill is usually carried in life. It should be remarked that the caruncle is often considerably shortened, and at times only appears as a horn-like projection scarcely as long as the bill itself. The caruncle may hang down on either side.



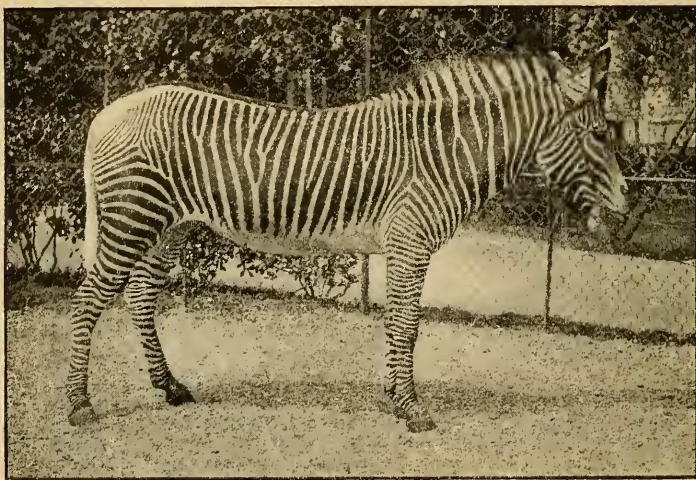
Head of Carunculated Bell-bird.

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Mr. Sclater exhibited a photograph (kindly transmitted to him by Mons. Porte) of the fine female specimen of Grévy's Zebra presented to the President of the French Republic by the Emperor Menelek, and received at the Jardin Zoologique d'Acclimatation in September 1898. Mr. Sclater spoke of the large size and great beauty of this animal, which he had lately had an opportunity of inspecting. It stood about 5 feet in height at the withers.

Mr. Sclater stated that he was still hoping to obtain an example of this Zebra for the Society's Collection, and read an extract from a letter addressed to him by Capt. J. L. Harrington, H.B.M. Envoy to Abyssinia, stating that the matter was receiving

his best attention, and that he hoped, if he returned to England in July, to bring with him a Grévy's Zebra, or perhaps even a pair.



Grévy's Zebra (*Equus grevi*).

(From the living specimen in the Jardin d'Acclimation, Paris.)

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Mr. A. Blaynay Percival, F.Z.S., exhibited a series of Bird-skins which he had lately obtained at Chiromo in British Central Africa; also some Insects from the same locality.

Mr. Percival read the following notes on the Birds :—

1. *MACHÆRHAMPHUS ANDERSSONI*.

This bird is a night-flier, and is a rare species.

My specimen was obtained one evening in the early part of August, 1898, while I was waiting for ducks. In flight it much resembles a falcon; in fact, until it came to hand I thought it was one. Its stomach was quite empty and the bird itself was in very poor condition. It is a young male in changing plumage.

One other example was seen near the Shiré River, some 25 miles from where I obtained my specimen. I spent almost the whole of one night watching for it, then told my gun-boy to stay, and promised him a reward if he got the bird; he saw it on the following evening, but did not get a shot. Later on he brought me a female *Polyboroides typicus*, which he said was the right bird, and was anxious to have the reward.

## 2. MEROPS NUBICOIDES.

During the months of October and November these birds were numerous on the Ruo and Shiré Rivers, breeding in colonies in the steep banks of those rivers in company with *M. bullockoides*. On the Ruo, the native children snare scores of them by setting a noose in the entrance to the nest. In one place I am sure I saw fifty snares set.

## 3. EURYSTOMUS AFER.

These birds were not seen until November, when they appeared in small parties of six or eight and were very noisy. Soon after arrival they broke up into pairs and became much quieter. They are not easily shot, being very wary and perching on the highest trees, if possible on a dead branch.

## 4. PSALIDOPROCNE sp. nov.

This small but interesting Swallow was obtained at the end of August, 1898, on the River Ruo. It was in considerable numbers on this one occasion only, and during the nine months I stayed in the district I never saw it again. It was flying high in the bright sunshine, unlike *Psolidoprocne antinorii*, which is seldom seen before dusk, then flying low down and usually among the trees.

My specimen differs from the type of *P. antinorii*, in the British Museum, in having the gloss of the back greenish black instead of purple, and I think it differs in some other points, but I intend making a further examination of it.

## 5. HALCYON PALLIDIVENTRIS.

This bird was shot near the nest and the eggs were taken. The nest was in soft ground beside a dry water-course, the hole in which the nest was placed being about 3 feet deep. I was trying to get at the female, which had flown out of the nest, when the male joined her and was shot, but I was unable to secure the female.

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Mr. Boulenger exhibited some living specimens of the "Harmut," *Clarias lazera* C. & V., from Damietta, believed to be the first examples of this curious Siluroid Fish imported alive to this country. Mr. Boulenger was not able to confirm from personal experience the account of its terricole habits that had been given by Dr. Sourd from Senegal specimens determined by Prof. Vaillant as *Clarias lazera* (Bull. Mus. H. N. 1895, p. 271). Specimens placed by Mr. Boulenger in a terrarium carpeted with turf had died after periods varying between one and three days.

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Dr. S. F. Harmer, F.R.S., gave an account of the remains of a Deer in the University Museum of Zoology at Cambridge, obtained from the Forest-Bed series at Parkfield, near Lowestoft, and belonging to

the form usually known as *Cervus verticornis* Dawk. The cranial portion of the skull was well preserved; the antlers had a spread of 6 feet, measured in a straight line, and the atlas and axis vertebrae had been found associated with the skull.

The specimen was of interest, not only from its unusually perfect condition, but as throwing further light on the characters and affinities of the species, remains of which had been found in large numbers in the Forest-Bed series, but had usually consisted solely of the basal part of the antlers. The restorations which had been published of the distal portions of the antlers were quite misleading, and were responsible for the statement commonly made that the antlers of this species are short and thick and that the crown ends in two points. The antlers were, on the contrary, comparable in their general proportions with those of the Fallow Deer and Irish Deer, and ended moreover in a broadly palmated crown, the edge of which was gently scalloped instead of being produced into long snags. The arrangement of the tines and of the palmation agreed closely with that in the species just mentioned, thus confirming the view that the Forest-Bed form was closely related to its ancestors.

The question of nomenclature was considered, with the result that *C. verticornis* of the Forest-Bed was probably identical with *C. carnutorum* Lang., and was a synonym of *C. belgrandi*, Lart.

This paper will be printed in full in the 'Transactions.'

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The following papers were read:—

1. An Account of a Collection of Fishes made by Mr. R. B. N. Walker, C.M.Z.S., on the Gold Coast. By Dr. A. GÜNTHER, F.R.S., F.Z.S.

[Received April 22, 1899.]

(Plates XLI.–XLV.)

Mr. R. B. N. Walker, C.M.Z.S., to whom we are indebted almost for the first information on the freshwater fishes of the Gaboon country<sup>1</sup>, has brought home a small collection which he formed during a visit to the Gold Coast in the course of last year, and which he has kindly entrusted to me for examination, with instructions to deposit a selection of the specimens in the Natural History Museum.

The collection, small as it is, proved to be of considerable interest, not only because it contained some forms new to this fauna

<sup>1</sup> See Ann. & Mag. N. H. 1867, p. 109.